

## COMPREHENSION CHALLENGES

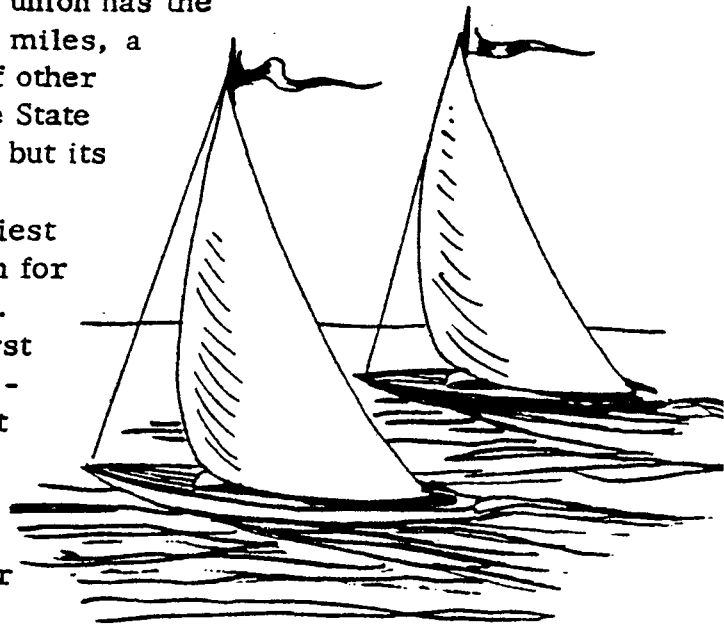
Did you know that the smallest state in the union has the the longest name? Rhode Island is 37 miles by 48 miles, a miniature vest pocket in comparison to the size of other states. The official name of this tiny state is The State of Rhode Island and the Providence of Plantations, but its nickname is Little Rhody.

Roger Williams, in 1636, founded the earliest settlement, Providence. He proclaimed it a haven for people who needed religious and political freedom. Later in history, the Rhode Islanders were the first to declare their independence from Great Britain--two months before the rest of the colonies. Artist Gilbert Stuart, Commodore Perry, and General Nathanael are among the early famous people of this state.

Despite its size, Rhode Island is one of our most highly industrialized states. It began with cotton spinning and has developed into a large textile business. Over the years it has varied its industry with other products such as costume jewelry, silverware, and machine tools.

Rhode Island's best known tourist attraction is the city of Newport, the summer home of many wealthy people. It is famous for America's Cup yacht races, its jazz, folk music, opera festivals, and its beautiful homes.

Although Rhode Island is small in size, she is mighty in strength.



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1. This story is about:
  - (a) famous people
  - (b) industrialization
  - (c) a state
  - (d) tourists
2. Rhode Island declared independence from Great Britain:
  - (a) before most of the colonies
  - (b) after most of the colonies
  - (c) first
  - (d) last
3. The industrialization of Rhode Island started from:
  - (a) the silverware business
  - (b) cotton spinning
  - (c) costume jewelry sales
  - (d) a machine tools trade
4. Rhode Island was founded by:
  - (a) Commodore Perry
  - (b) Roger Williams
  - (c) General Nathanael
  - (d) Gilbert Stuart
5. Which is not a characteristic of Rhode Island?
  - (a) wealthy homes
  - (b) industry
  - (c) opera festivals
  - (d) lumber
6. Haven in this story means:
  - (a) a port
  - (b) place of safety
  - (c) city
  - (d) an isolated area
7. Rhode Island is "mighty in strength" which means that:
  - (a) she has a large army
  - (b) she has a great deal to offer the people of the United States
  - (c) she has the most industrialization
  - (d) many wealthy people live there
8. Why was Rhode Island the first to declare independence from Great Britain:
  - (a) didn't like Great Britain
  - (b) had shown a need for religious and political freedom 140 years before
  - (c) was the largest settlement
  - (d) it was the earliest settlement